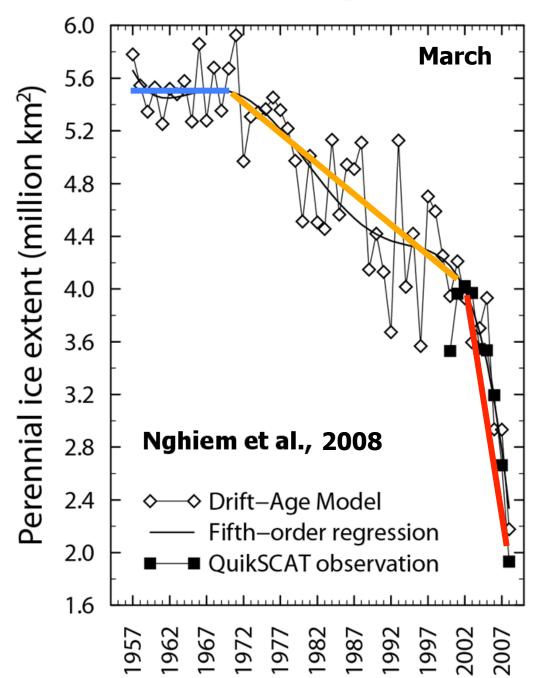
5th Symposium on the Impacts of an Ice-Diminishing Arctic on Naval and Maritime Operations

Comparative Analysis of Changes in Arctic and Antarctic Sea Ice

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Joint Institute for Regional Earth System
Science and Engineering (JIFRESSE)
Los Angeles, California, USA

18 July 2013

Perennial Sea Ice Change 1957-2008



Sea Ice Change QuikSCAT 2000-2008:

Decrease of 1.5x10⁶ km² per decade in March perennial ice extent as measured from QuikSCAT data and estimated from the Drift-Age model.

TRIPLE THE LOSS RATE in the previous three decades

ICE
LOSS IN
WINTER
AND
SPRING

Animation of sea ice 20 frames per second 9/2008 to 5/2009

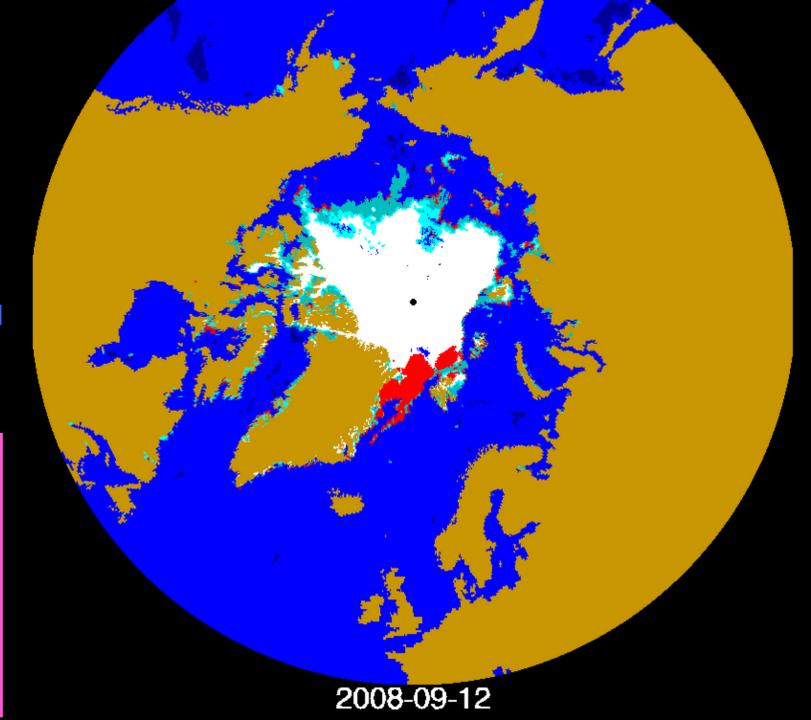
SEA ICE CLASSES

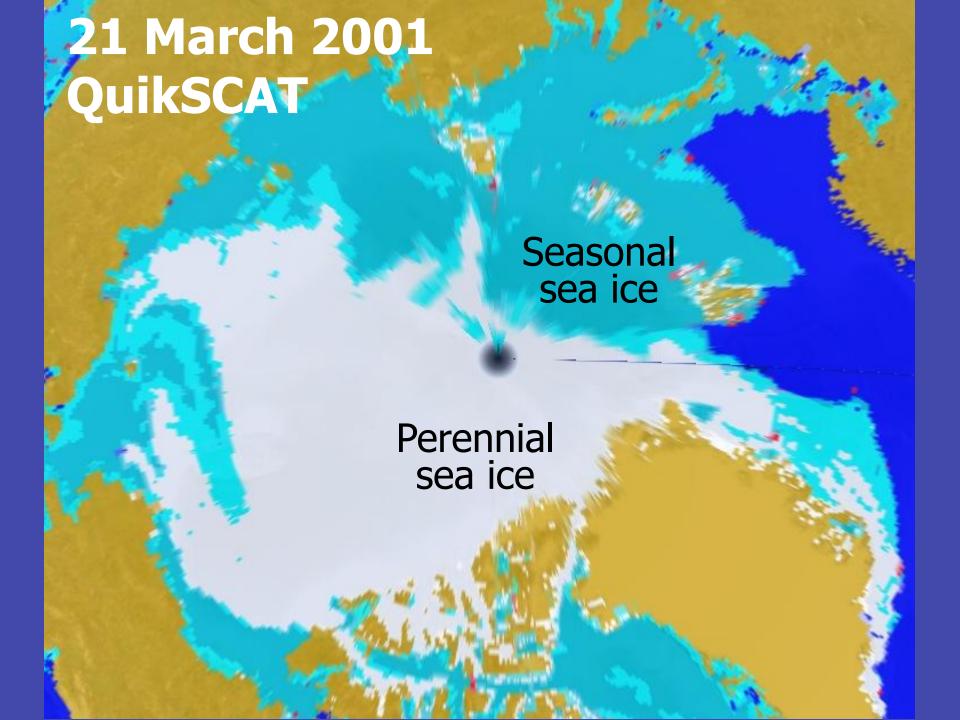
Seasonal

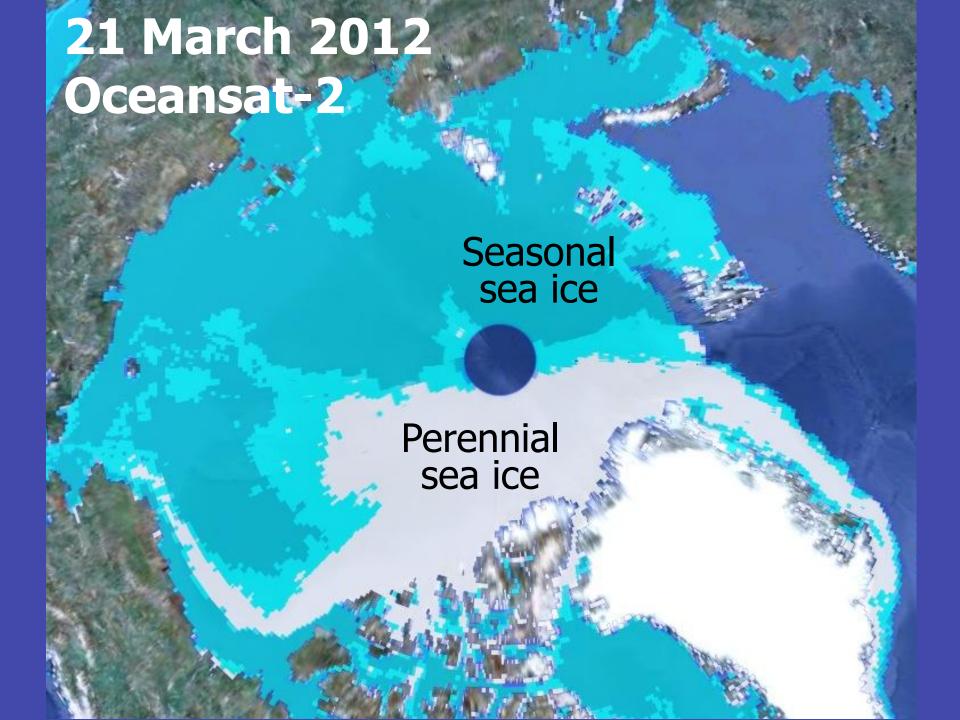
Mixed ice

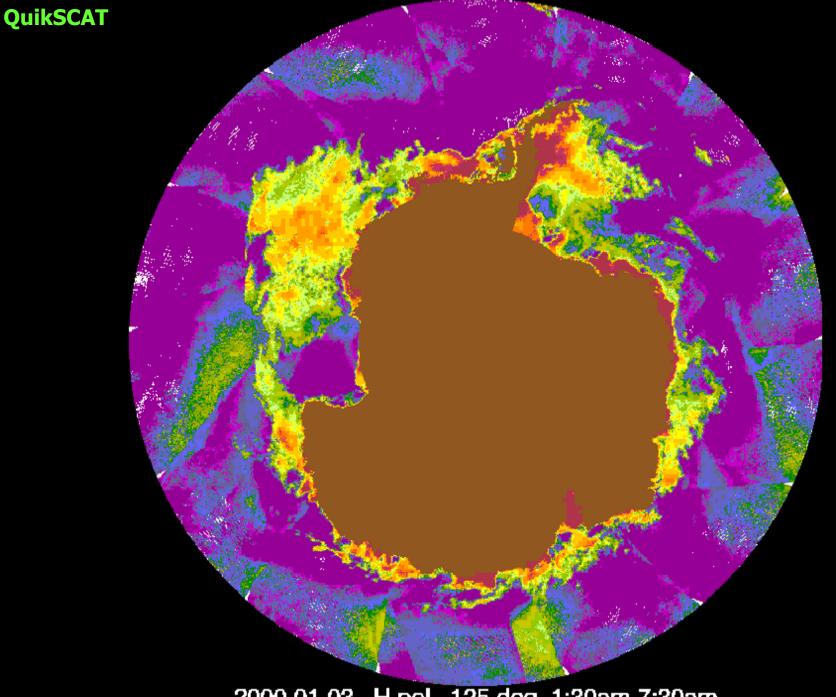
Perennial

Melt

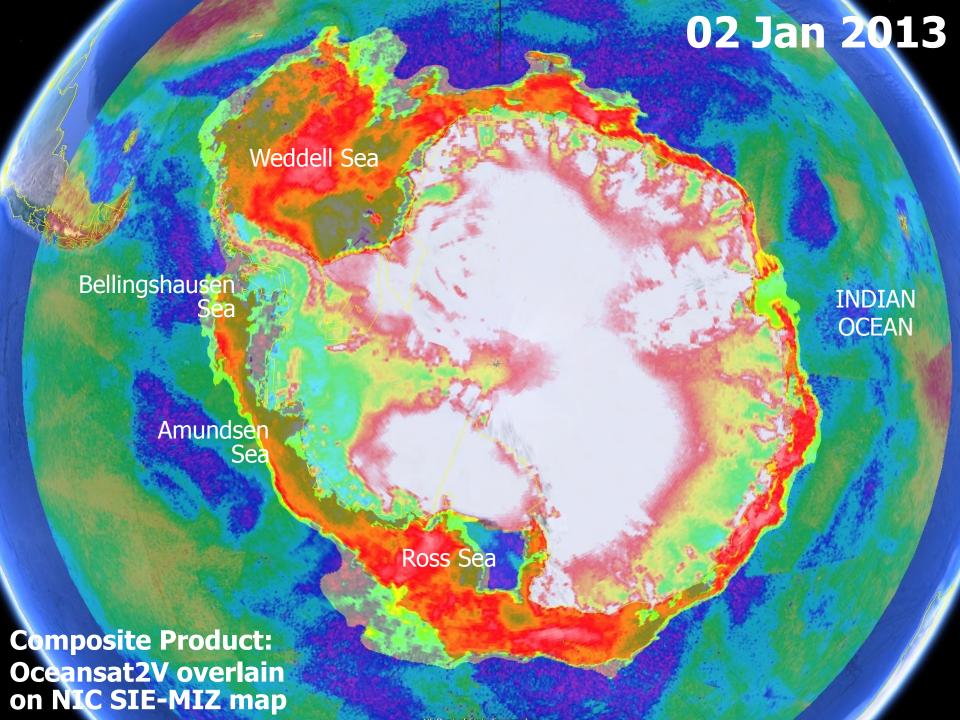


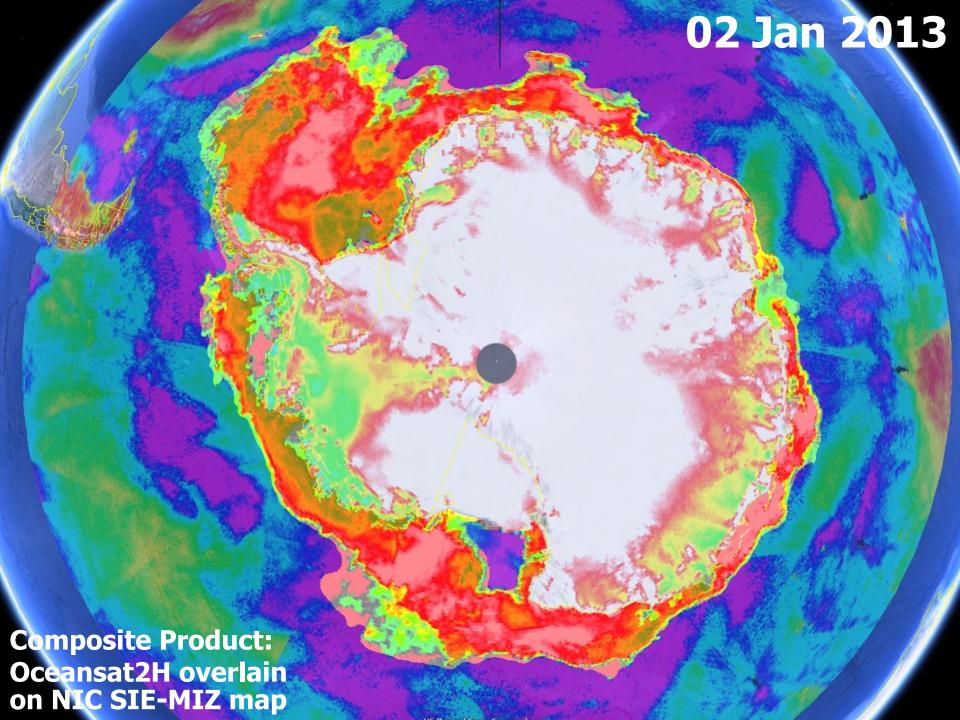


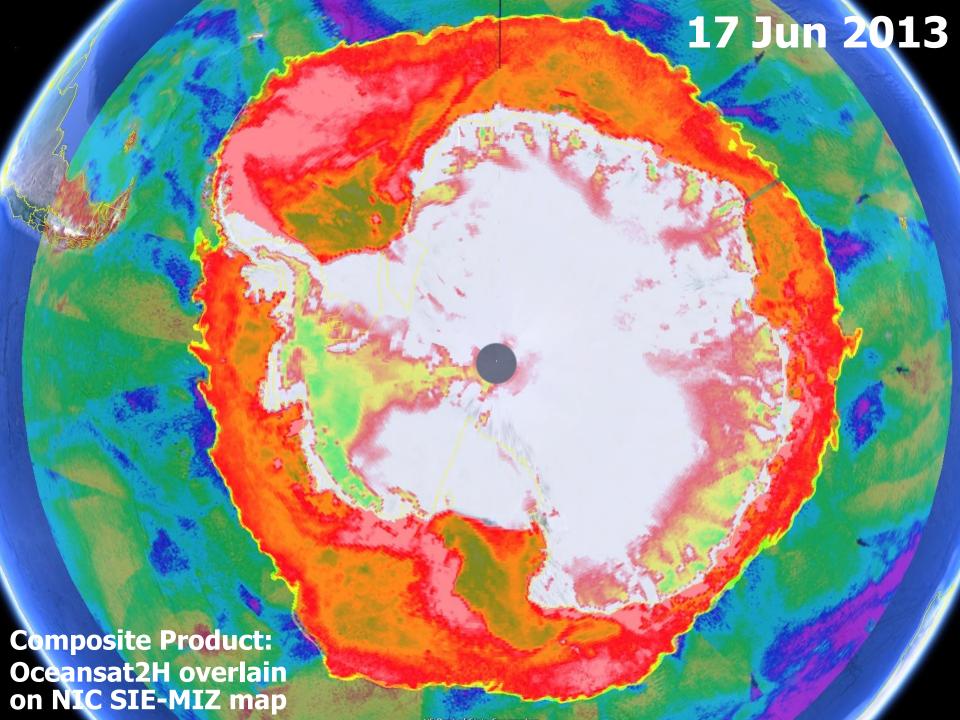




2000-01-03 H pol, .125 deg, 1:30am-7:30am







Arctic vs Antarctic Sea ice

Arctic sea ice regime shift:

Arctic sea ice has become dominated by seasonal ice.

Antarctic seasonal sea ice:

Antarctic sea ice consists mostly seasonal sea ice.

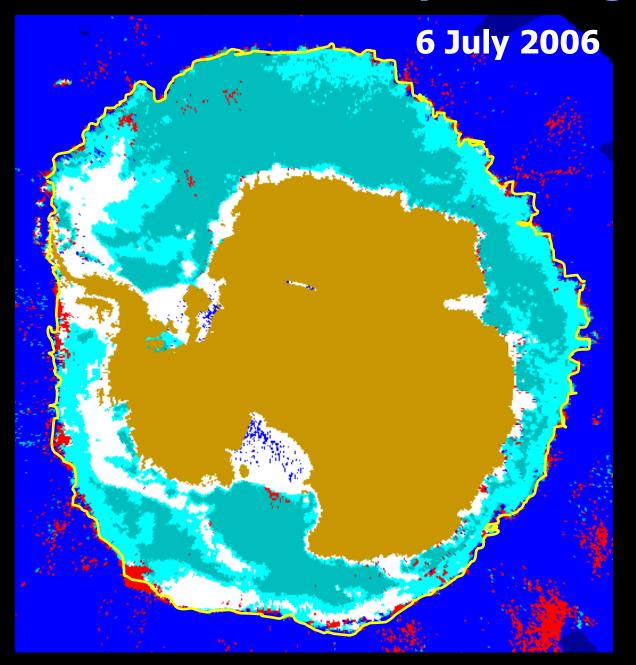
A question:

Would Antarctic sea ice be a preview of Arctic sea ice?

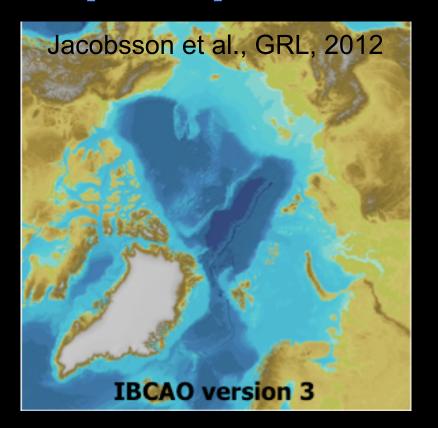
A puzzle:

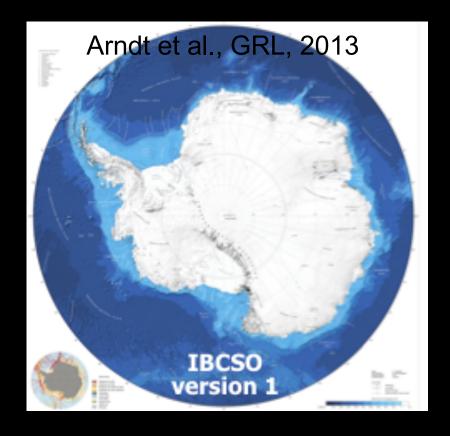
Arctic sea ice decreases rapidly while Antarctic sea ice has some increase.

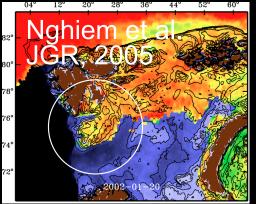
Antarctic Sea ice Classified by Arctic Signature

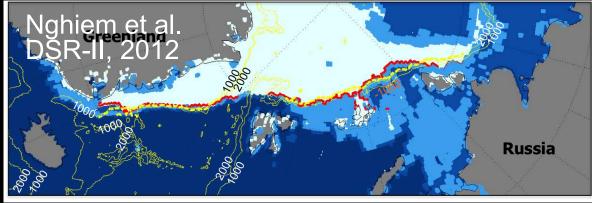


Bathymetry and its Role on Sea Ice Patterns

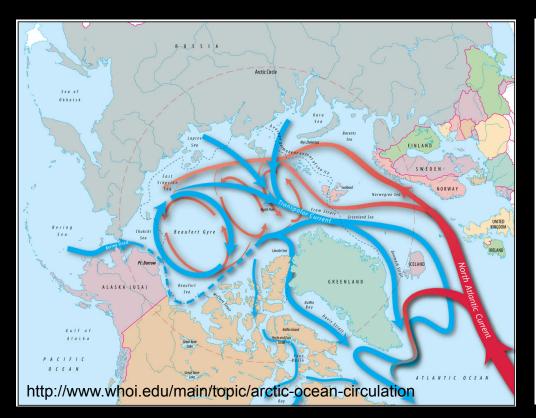


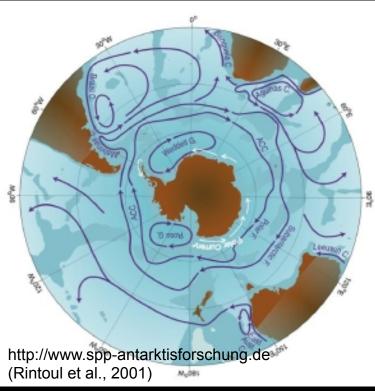






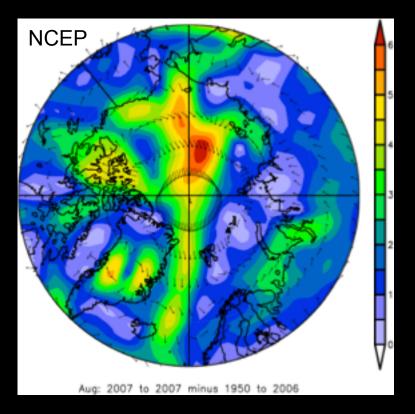
Arctic and Antarctic Currents

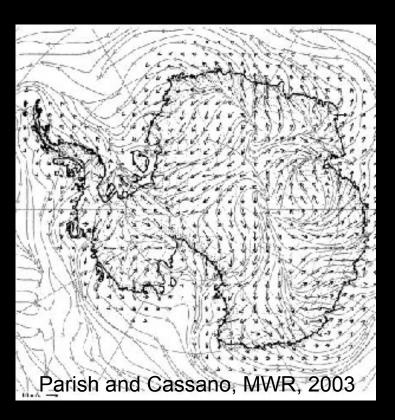




- Arctic Ocean: Cold and warm waters in/out
- Southern Ocean: Clockwise/counter clockwise
- Currents/waters guided by bathymetry
- Cold/warm waters control ice growth/melt

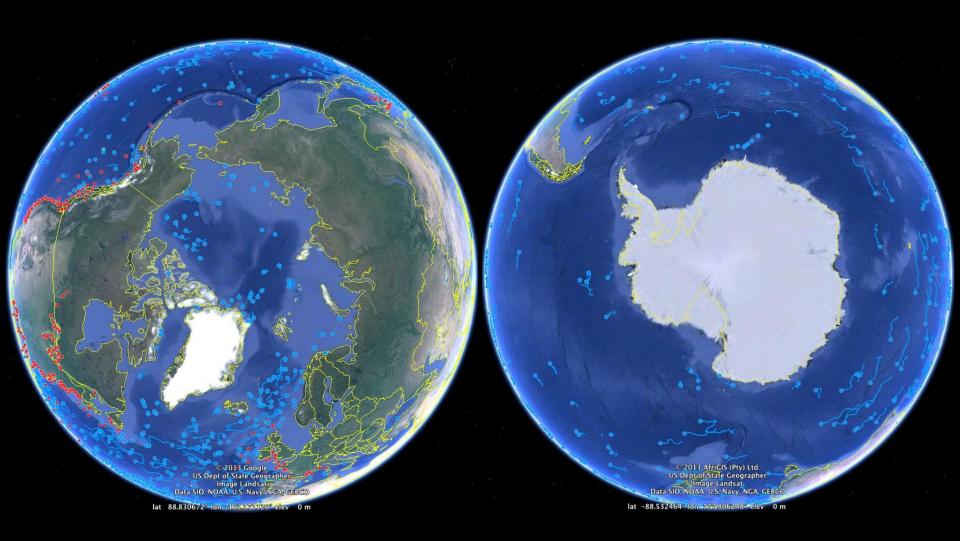
Arctic and Antarctic Winds





- Arctic: Atmospheric patterns determine wind patterns that can force sea ice export out of the Arctic.
- Antarctic: Katabatic winds drive sea ice dynamics and impact ice patterns.

Arctic and Antarctic Buoy Observation Network



Summary

- Both Arctic and Antarctic sea ice mostly consists of seasonal sea ice.
- Arctic sea ice decreases rapidly while Antarctic sea ice increases.
- Arctic and Antarctic have different characteristics (bathymetry, currents, water masses, winds, etc.).
- Need measurements/observations to identify similarities and differences in sea ice physical processes.